

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **09/934,655**
Response dated February 20, 2004
Reply to OA of September 5, 2003

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 6-9 and 17 and new claims 18-25 are pending in this application. Claims 3, 4 and 10-16 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 18-25 are newly added by this Supplemental Amendment.

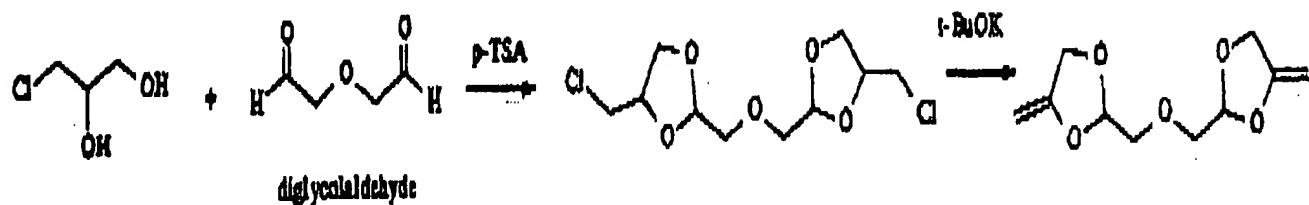
The remarks in this Supplemental Amendment only concern new claims 18-25.

The support for new claims 18-25 is as follows: at page 14, line 18, “diglycolaldehyde” is enumerated as one of examples of aldehydes and ketones of the general formula (III), and from page 13, line 22 to page 14, line 4 the reaction of such a compound with 3-chloro-1, 2-propandiol is mentioned. The reaction of “diglycolaldehyde” and 3-chloro-1, 2-propandiol produces “**2,2'-oxybismethylene-bis-(4-chloromethyl-1, 3-dioxolane)**”, which is the correct nomenclature for claim 19 and the support for the product-by-process claims 20 and 21.

Furthermore, from page 10 to page 12 the method for changing “4-chloromethyl” (claim 19) to “methylene” (claim 18) is disclosed. The compounds of claim 18 , i.e., “**2, 2'-oxybismethylene-bis-(4-methylene-1, 3-dioxolane)**” is derived from “**2, 2'-oxybismethylene-bis-(4-chloromethyl-1, 3-dioxolane)**” in accordance with this method.

The reaction scheme of the foregoing process is shown below.

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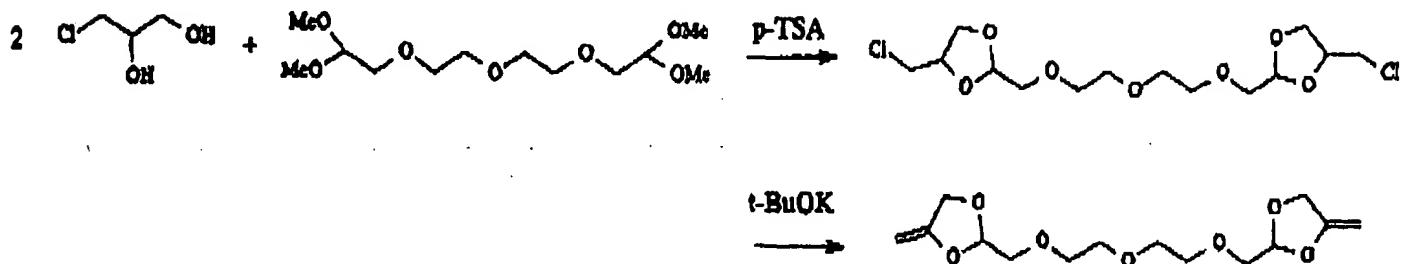
At page 16, lines 9 to 14, the synthesis of an acetal compound by reacting chloro-or bromoacetaldehyde dimethylacetal or -diethylacetal with diethylene glycol by Williamson reaction is disclosed.



In addition, from page 15, line 16 to page 16, line 3, the synthesis of an objective 4-chloromethyl-1, 3-dioxolane compound by reacting this acetal compound with 3-chloro-1, 2-propandiol is disclosed. Moreover, from page 10 to page 12, the method for changing “4-chloromethyl” to “methylene” as described above is disclosed. Thorough these reactions the compound of claim 23, “2, 2' - oxybis(ethyleneoxymethylene)-bis-(4-chloromethyl-1, 3-dioxolane)” including product-by-process claims 24 and 25, and the compound of claim 22, “2,2' -

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oxybis(ethyleneoxymethylene)-bis-(4-methylene-1,3-dioxolane)" are obtained as shown below.



The applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other

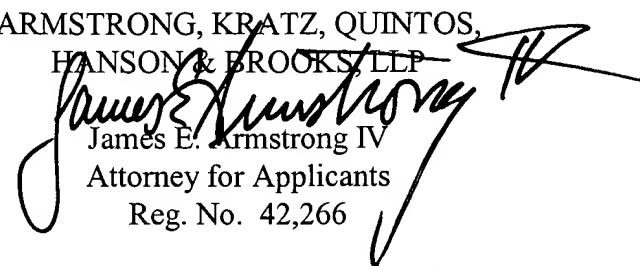
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fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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